



HF Happenings

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the week of 19 September 2016

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp.



Provisional Results of the SARL National Field Day

The contest committee received sixteen log sheets for the second leg of the SARL National Field Day, held over the weekend of 10 and 11 September 2016. Thank you to those who submitted the requested photos with their log sheets. Please check your provincial abbreviations – CE does not count as EC.

Please note – these are the provisional results and may change!

Class A – Field station, multi operator

- 1st Highway ARC, ZS5HAM, 144 360 points
- 2nd Welkom ARC, ZS4WRC, 115 236 points
- 3rd West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 104 004 points
- 4th Pretoria ARC, ZS6PTA, 83 700 points
- 5th Sasolburg ARC, ZS4SRK, 54 324 points
- 6th Sandton ARC, ZS6STN, 51 300 points
- 7th Sandringham Scout Group, ZS6SSG, 43 848 points
- 8th Noord-Natal ARK, ZS5NAK, 8 136 points

Class D – Field station, single operator, QRP

- 1st Johannes van Zijl, ZS4DZ, 67 878 points
- 2nd Pieter Jacobs, V51PJ, 30 132 points

Class F – General stations

- 1st East Rand ARC, ZS6ERB, 34 020 points
- 2nd Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, 2 736 points
- 3rd Roy Walsh, ZS3RW, 1 452 points
- 4th Woody Collett, ZS3WL, 450 points
- 5th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 180 points
- 6th Joop Hesp, ZS6JP, 10 points



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
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Combined Results – February and September legs

Class A – Field station, multi operator

- 1st Highway ARC, ZS5HAM, 256 080 points
- 2nd West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 240 084 Ppoints
- 3rd Welkom ARC, ZS4WRC, 197 436 points
- 4th Pretoria ARC, ZS6PTA, 167 340 points
- 5th Sasolburg ARC, ZS4SRK, 82 836 points
- 6th Sandton ARC, ZS6STN, 69 444 points
- 7th Sandringham Scout Group, ZS6SSG, 43 848 points
- 8th Secunda ARC, ZS6SRC, 25 152 points
- 9th Zululand ARC, ZS5ZLB, 24 864 points
- 10th Noord-Natal ARK, ZS5NAK, 8 136 points
- 11th Centurion ARC, ZS6CEN, 2 400 points

Class C – Field station, single operator

- 1st Mitchel Mynhardt, ZS6YH, 57 120 points

Class D – Field station, single operator, QRP

- 1st Johannes van Zijl, ZS4DZ, 122 472 points
- 2nd Pieter Jacobs, V51PJ, 30 132 points

Class F – General stations

- 1st East Rand ARC, ZS6ERB, 34 020 points
- 2nd Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, 2 736 points
- 3rd Roy Walsh, ZS3RW, 2 132 points
- 4th Stephan van Jaarsveld, ZS6SVJ, 1 200 points
- 5th Woody Collett, ZS3WL, 450 points
- 6th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 180 points
- 7th Joop Hesp, ZS6JP, 10 points

Chelmsford Newsletter Archive

This year is the 80th anniversary of the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (CARS) and the club's newsletter archive is now available for download.

The club, then known as the Chelmsford RSGB Group, was formed in April 1936 with the initial meeting being held at the home of founder member Louis Varney, G5RV, who would later become well known for the G5RV Antenna and the Elizabethan transmitter. 15 members of the Southend and District Amateur Radio Society travelled all the way to Chelmsford for the first meeting to support the creation of another club in Essex.

The first known newsletter was not published until nearly 30 years later in January 1966. Since then there have been over 600 editions published. You can find the newsletter archive at <http://g0mwt.org.uk/newsletter/>

DXCC News

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved the 2016 A5A Bhutan operation for DXCC credit.

A Record Breaker on 630 Meters!

September

- 2 and 3 – Tekkiefes, Vereeniging
- 3 – West Rand Flea Market**
- 10 and 11 – SARL National Field Day**
- 10 – Old Mutual Mont-Aux-Sources Challenge, Royal Natal National Park; the Beast Challenge, Muldersdrift
- 11 – SARL Youth Net**
- 15 – October RAE closing date**
- 16 – World Ozone Day
- 16 to 18 – Darling Wildflower Festival
- 17 and 18 – SARL VHF/UHF Contest; All Africa DX Contest**
- 22 – Spring Equinox
- 22 to 25 – Hermanus Flower Festival; National Sheep-dog Trails, Dullstroom
- 23 to 25 – Gauteng Getaway Show
- 24 – National Braai Day and Heritage Day
- 24 and 25 – CQ WW RTTY Contest;** Franschhoek Uncorked Festival
- 24 Sept to 2 Oct – Magoebaskloof and Haenertsburg Spring Festival
- 26 – Closing date for October Radio ZS**
- 27 – World Tourism Day
- 29 Sept to 3 Oct – White Mountain Music Festival, Estcourt, Natal
- 29 Sept to 2 Oct – Madeliefie Makietie, Vredendal
- 30 – All schools close
- 30 Sept to 2 Oct – Hermanus Whale Festival

October

- 1 – Spring QRP Contest**
- 4 – World habitat Day
- 6 – SARL 80 m QSO Party**
- 8 and 9 – AWA Valve QSO Party**
- 9 – SARL Youth Net**
- 6 to 9 – Superblast Rocking the Daisies Music and Lifestyle Festival, Darling
- 10 – All schools open
- 12 – Yom Kippur
- 20 – Radio Amateur Examination;** National Marine Day
- 21 to 23 – Jamboree on the Air**
- 22 – CQ Hou Koers**
- 29 and 30 – CQ WW DX SSB Contest**

Although US radio amateurs do not yet have access to 630 meters, Canadian licensees do and one of them was on the North American end of the first two-way contact on that band between Canada and Australia. Steve McDonald, VE7SL, in British Columbia, and Roger Crofts, VK4YB, in Queensland, completed a contact on 15 September between 12:25 and 13:19 UTC using the JT9 digital mode. The distance covered was approximately 11265.41 km.

"This morning a historic QSO for the Amateur Service was completed!" commented John Langridge, KB5NJD, who also holds an FCC Part 5 Experimental license, WG2XIQ. "This is also the longest two-way QSO on 630 meters ever completed." The contact took place on 474.300 kHz.

McDonald said band conditions were just good enough to get the job done. "Well, it wasn't pretty as in 'pretty-quick,' but it's done," he told Langridge in recounting the contact. McDonald told ARRL that the band "was not particularly good this far north and was much better just a few hundred miles to my south," but had been improving "little by little."

Crofts agreed that he and McDonald had a tough time of it. "It was a real struggle, but finally got there," he told Langridge in an e-mail. "I thought we were going to miss out, because all the big signals had taken a dive. Obviously the path to VE7 was still hanging in there."

McDonald said his antenna is "basically about the size of a 160 meter inverted L, but over extremely poor ground," while Crofts, with what McDonald described as "a monster antenna" was doing the heavy lifting for the contact. McDonald was using a transverter that VK4YB had sent him for beta testing, driving an LF MOSFET amplifier converted for 630 meter use.

Meanwhile, Joe Lowe, NU6O, in California, reports that VK4YB also heard his WI2XBQ Experimental Service beacon on September 14. "I was running 0.5 W ERP, 50 W TPO, into a 43-foot vertical in the backyard," he told ARRL. "Very low power and simple equipment are capable of DX on 630 meters!" Lowe said he was using *WSPR* mode.

Lithium Ion batteries

Lithium Ion batteries were in the news over the last two weeks with the recall by Samsung of millions of phones which could be prone to overheat and potentially combust. It serves as a reminder to always be careful with portable equipment which may contain these types of cells, and that you should expect greater scrutiny if travelling by air with your equipment.

Word to the Wise

A packet cluster is a server that you can connect with to primarily obtain 'spot' information - reports of stations operating on a particular frequency. If named today it might be called a "spot server," but it originated in the days when digital communication for Amateur Radio was accomplished using UHF/VHF radios and the AX.25 protocol. Connections to a cluster are usually via the Internet, but packet radio can still be used with some nodes. Packet clusters exchange information with other packet clusters, and also distribute spots to logging programs, packet cluster clients, web front ends (e.g. DXSummit <http://dxsummit.fi/>) or other programs. Spots originate from individual operators via logging programs or web front ends, or are automatically generated by CW and RTTY Skimmer programs www.dxatlas.com/cwskimmer/ and <http://wz7i.com/cw-skimmer/rtty-skimmer.html>. Popular packet cluster server software includes AR-Cluster and CC Cluster www.bcdxc.org/ve7cc/ccc/cluster.htm, and DX Spider.

Operating Tip

Use the Band map When Searching and Pouncing. If you are tuning up or down the band, enter each station you copy or work into your logging program's band map. When you revisit a frequency later, the band map will help you more quickly determine whether you have worked the station before. Even in a casual contest operation, it will reduce frustration and increase your rate. It is also a good way to develop that skill. Many loggers have a setting for the time interval after which an entry in the band map 'expires' and disappears. This is sometimes called the 'packet spot timeout,' but it applies to calls that you enter by logging or inserting into the band map by typing them, even when you're not using packet cluster spots. You will likely have to change this interval based on a particular contest, conditions and how you are operating. In a single-band contest for say 160 meters, stations may not move around too much in the middle of the contest, and you may want to use a longer timeout. If propagation is rapidly changing and stations are prone to move around a bit, a shorter interval would be in order. For example, for a sprint-format contest, the N1MM logger documentation suggests setting it to 1 minute, as stations do not really have run frequencies.

CQ WW Contest

You can check the format of your log for the CQ WW contests *before* submitting it by using the CQ WW Log Check page www.cqww.com/logcheck/. Note that you still have to submit your log after using this tool.

Fldigi and PSK Express

Scott, N3FJP, has been working with Dave, W1HKJ, author of Fldigi, and Jeff, N7YG, author of PSK Express and Digital Engine, to provide greater integration between those programs and Scott's software. Scott made some changes to his API and has re-released versions of his Amateur Contact Log and CQ WW DX RTTY programs.

Win4K3Suite

In related news, the new release of Win4K3Suite <http://va2fsq.com/> supports direct logging into N3FJP's Amateur Contact Log and Contest logs from Win4K3's terminal mode. In terminal mode, CW, FSK-D and PSK-D contacts can be made using the built-in keyer and decoding capabilities of the K3/K3S, KX3, and KX2.

Recording Contest Audio

If you are trying to record contest audio with an Elecraft K3/K3S, you will want to check out the "Recording Contest Audio" article by Bob Wolbert, K6XX, in the Northern California Contest Club's JUG newsletter for August 2016 www.nccc.cc/jug/2016/08Aug2016.pdf. It makes mention of a recent firmware update that Elecraft made so that transmit audio will be routed to the Line Output at a fixed level.

Reverse Beacon Network

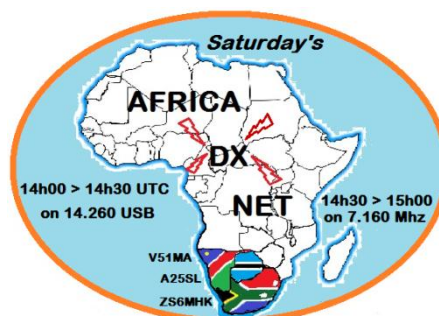
Spots that have originated from the Reverse Beacon Network (ReverseBeacon.net) are usually turned OFF as the default setting when you log into a packet cluster from your logging program. In CW and RTTY Contests, you are missing many spots if you are not using them if your operating category allows. The usual incantation to turn them on is SET/SKIMMER or a variation of that command. During major contests, you may get more spots than your logging computer can handle, depending on the age and capabilities of your computer hardware <http://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-index.php?page=Spot+Filtering>. Symptoms will be your logging program becoming unresponsive, or the inability to send CW without delay. Cut down on the local processing burden by setting up appropriate filters to get rid of spots you cannot use at your cluster node, before your computer gets them. Depending on the software used by the packet cluster you are connected to, SET/FILTER or SET/FILTERS will help you.

WRTC-2108

The WRTC-2018 qualifying standings continue to be updated with the scores of recent contests. <http://wrtc2018.de/index.php/qualifikation/standings>

African DX

Dem. Rep. of the Congo, 9Q. Christian, IS0BWM, will be active using the special event call sign 9Q0HQ/3 in Kengé from the Democratic Republic of the Congo between 20 November and 25 December. He has received written permission from the national amateur radio club (ARAC). Activity will be on various HF bands using SSB. QSL via IS0BWM direct only (see QRZ.com). Log will be posted on ClubLog.



Uganda, 5X. Andy, DL3YM will be on the air as 5X8B from Entebbe in Uganda from 20 September to 1 October while on a work assignment. Activity will be in his spare time from the campus of the Nkumba University in Entebbe on the HF bands using mostly CW with some SSB occasionally for demonstration purposes. QSL to his home call sign.



Kenya, 5Z. Watch out for 5Z4/IW5BBV, to be active between 24 September and 10 October. Bruno is going to operate on 40, 20, 17 and 15 m from Watamu and Mida. QSL via IW5BBV (d/B), eQSL.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114

7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

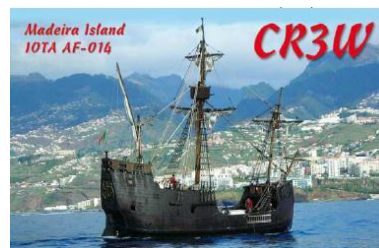


Comoros. Pavel, D6. OK1FPS, David, OK6DJ, Pavel, OK1GK, Rudolf, OK2ZA and Petr, OK1BOA will be active as D66D from Comoros Islands (AF-007) between 18 and 30 September. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. Equipment will be 3 x Elecraft K3 with 2 x PA into 2 x Spiderbeams (includes WARC), 1 x vertical (40/30 m), 1 vertical (160/80 m) and a special RX antenna for the low bands. QSL via OK6DJ, LoTW or eQSL. For more details and updates, see www.cdyp.cz and watch their Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/1472348776313779



Seychelles, S7. Kasimir, DL2SBY, will be active from two islands in the Seychelles with the call S79KB: between 24 September and 2 October from Praslin and from 2 to 8 October from Eden Island. He will be active on HF (SSB, CW, RTTY) with an FT900, ACOM 1010 amplifier and vertical antennas. QSL via DL2SBY (d) and ClubLog OQRS for direct and bureau; do not send your card via the bureau.

Madeira Archipelago, CT3. Dieter, DK4QT, Thomas, DL6TK, and Kalle, DM3BJ, will be active from 19 to 28 September from Madeira (AF-014) as CT9/home calls on HF (CW, SSB, RTTY); during the RTTY contest as CR3W. QSLs via home calls (d/B), CR3W via DL5AXX (d/B).



S9BT & S9WL



SAO TOME 2016 DXPEDITION

Sao Tome and Principe, S9. Josep, EA3BT and Nuria, EA3WL, are going to put Sao Tome Island (AF-023) on the air from 26 September until 1 October. They will be active as S9BT and S9WL on 40 to 6 m (SSB, RTTY and some CW). QSL for both calls via EA3BT. <http://www.ea3bt.com/>

Sao Tome, S9. A German team will be active as S9YY from Sao Tome (AF-023) between 8 and 23 October. Operators mentioned are Peter, DL1RPL, Soeren, DL3RKS, Dieter, DL1AWD, Hans, DL1AOB, Rocco, DG5AA and Rich, DK8YY. Activity will be on CW, SSB and the Digital modes, on the HF bands and 2 m EME. QSL via DH7WW, by the Bureau or direct (new address since 2015: Ulrich Moeckel, Schwarzwinkel 13, 08304 Schoenheide, Germany).

Chagos Islands, VQ9. Jim, ND9M, is once again active from Diego Garcia Island (AF-006), but signing as VQ96JC on Saturday on 17 meters CW. Jim informs OPDX, "I'll be here for another month before returning to the US, and only a couple times each week. But I always look for NA stations; the Left Coast often comes through here with good sigs most reliably on 17 m."

Jim, who has been going to VQ9 since 1998, lives/works on a US merchant marine ship, states "there is no permanent station on the island; the ham club has been gone for years," and "the physical commute between my ship and my operating location takes about 90 minutes overall. Set up and breakdown each time is another 30 minutes. Band changes require me to lower the antenna and add or remove segments to/from the antenna so there is more time. So each and every time I operate, I've got a 6-hour overall window and 2 hours are eaten up without even being on the air."

Jim's entire station is in a backpack and green environment shopping bags. He sets up in front of a recreational park where there is A/C power and trees. The station that he carries includes a Yaesu FT-857D, external power supply, separate tuner, 75-feet of coax, a 15 - 40 m dipole, support line and tools; everything

comes to about 25 pounds. Since this is a military base, Jim cannot leave his antenna up at all times, so he has to put up the antenna every time he operates and then take it back down when he is done for the evening. He uses 100-pound fishing line for support legs, but that stuff is very attractive to the locals who often take it, and he finds that he has to put up new line fairly regularly; it's a bit of a pain to throw line up into the jungle trees and then find it again just to tie it off and make it accessible for a couple hours. Jims preferred operating mode is CW, although he does try to get on SSB occasionally and even the Digital modes (PSK31, PSK63, and RTTY) if time allows. The "6" in his call sign VQ96JC represents the year in 2016. Jim has been doing this since 2007 (i.e. VQ97JC, VQ98JC, VQ99JC...). He also operated as VQ975FOC in 2013 as part of the FOC's 75th anniversary celebration. QSL info is posted on QRZ.com.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 19 to 26 September 2016

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 19 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once;

Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 September 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://qrptest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://qrptest.com/pigrun/>

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 21 September

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 23 September 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC 21 September and 19:00 - 20:00

UTC 21 September and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 22 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-

Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 24 September 2016

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.cwops.org/cwt.html

NAQCC CW Sprint

00:30 - 02:30 UTC 22 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 26 September 2016

Upload log at: <http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>

Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA
Find rules at: <http://naqcc.info/sprint201609.html>

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 23 September

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 September 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 23 September

Mode: CW

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 September 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

CQ Worldwide DX RTTY Contest

00:00 UTC 24 September to 24:00 UTC 25 September

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - high, low or QRP - regular, classic or rookie
Single Op Single Band - high, low or QRP - regular, classic or rookie;
Single Op Assisted All Band - high, low or QRP - regular or rookie;
Single Op Assisted Single Band - high, low or QRP - regular or rookie;
Multi-Single; Multi-Two; Multi-Unlimited

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: 48 States/Canada: RST and CQ Zone and (state/VE area); All Others: RST and CQ Zone

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each US state/VE area once per band; Each DXCC/WAE country once per band; Each CQ zone once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 30 September 2016

E-mail logs to: rtty@cqww.com

Web-to-Cabrillo form:

www.b4h.net/cabforms/cqwwrtty_cab.php

Mail logs to: Ed Muns, W0YK, PO Box 1877, Los Gatos, CA 95031-1877, USA

Find rules at: www.cq-amateur-radio.com/

Maine QSO Party

12:00 UTC 24 September to 12:00 UTC 25 September

Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Single Op Mobile - low; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Multi

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: ME: RS(T) and county; non-ME: RS(T) and state, province or DX

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with ME stations; 1 point per QSO with non-ME stations

Multipliers: ME counties, states, provinces, DXCC countries once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 10 October 2016

E-mail logs to: maineqsoparty@gmail.com

Mail logs to: Wireless Society of Southern Maine, Maine QSO Party, c/o Thom Watson, PO Box 6833, Scarborough, ME 04074, USA

Find rules at:

www.qsl.net/ws1sm/Maine_QSO_Party.html

Texas QSO Party

14:00 UTC 24 September to 02:00 UTC 25 September and 14:00 - 20:00 UTC 25 September

Mode: All

Bands: All, except WARC

Classes: Fixed Single Op Mixed; Fixed QRP Single Op; Fixed Single Op CW; Fixed Single Op Phone; Fixed Multi-Op; TX Mobile Single Op Mixed; TX Mobile Multi-Op; TX Mobile Single Op CW; TX Mobile Single Op Phone

Max power: HP: >5 watts CW/digital, >10 watts phone; QRP: 5 watts CW/digital, 10 watts phone

Exchange: TX: RS(T) and County; non-TX: RS(T) and state, province, country or MM region

Work stations: Once per band per mode per county

QSO Points: 2 points per phone QSO; 3 points per CW/digital QSO; TX Stations: 500 bonus points for each TX mobile worked in 5 different counties; TX

Mobiles: 1 000 bonus points for each TX county covered with at least 5 QSOs; non-TX Stations: 500 bonus points for each TX mobile worked in 5 different counties and another 500 bonus points for

working the same TX mobile in an additional 5 counties
Multipliers: TX Stations: Each TX county, state, province, DXCC country once; non-TX Stations: Each TX county once
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 31 October 2016
E-mail logs to: logs@txqp.net
Mail logs to: TQP Committee, 24415 Deep Meadow Dr, Tomball, TX 77375, USA
Find rules at: <http://www.txqp.net/>

RSGB International CW Sprint Contest
17:00 - 21:00 UTC 24 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W; QRP: 5 W
Exchange: your call sign, other station's call sign, serial no and name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 1 October 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2016/sprint.shtml>

Classic Exchange, Phone
13:00 UTC 25 September to 08:00 UTC 26 September and 13:00 UTC 27 September to 08:00 UTC 28 September
Mode: AM, SSB, FM
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 28 September
Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 28 September
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 28 September and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 29 September
UKEICC 80 m Contest, 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 28 September
RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, CW, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 29 September
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 30 September
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 30 September
YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest, 14:00 UTC 30 September to 02:00 UTC 2 October
15-Meter SSTV Dash Contest, 00:00 UTC 1 October to 23:59 UTC 2 October
TARA PSK Rumble Contest, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 1 October
Oceania DX Contest, Phone, 08:00 UTC 1 October to 08:00 UTC 2 October
GTC CW Cup, 12:00 UTC 1 October to 12:00 UTC 2 October
Russian WW Digital Contest, 12:00 UTC 1 October to 11:59 UTC 2 October

Classes: (none)
Exchange: Name, RS, state, province or country and rcvr/xmtr manuf/model
Work stations: Once per band per mode per rcv/xmtr manuf/model
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (see rules)
Score Calculation: Total score = sum(total mode QSO points x total mode mults) and Bonus Points
Submit logs by: 31 December 2016
E-mail logs to: wq8u@arrl.net
Mail logs to: WQ8U, 104 W. Queen St., Hillsborough, NC 27278, USA
Find rules at: <http://www.classicexchange.org/sep16/sep2016cxann.html>

Peanut Power QRP Sprint
20:00 - 22:00 UTC 25 September
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Goober: 1 W CW/2 W SSB Portable; Salted: 5 W CW/10 W SSB Portable; Boiled: 1 W CW/2 W SSB Home; Roasted: 5 W CW/10 W SSB Home; Raw: >5 W CW/>10 W SSB Home or Portable
Exchange: RS(T), state, province or country and peanut no or power output
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 7 points per QSO with peanut station; 3 points per QSO with non-peanut station
Multipliers: Each state, province or country, once per band per mode
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 October 2016
E-mail logs to: pete@nogagrp.org
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://www.nogagrp.org/PeanutPower/rules.pdf>

TRC DX Contest, 12:00 UTC 1 October to 12:00 UTC 2 October
 WAB HF Phone, 12:00 UTC 1 October to 12:00 UTC 2 October
 California QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 1 October to 22:00 UTC 2 October
 International HELL-Contest , 16:00 - 18:00 UTC 1 October (80 m) and 09:00 – 11:00 UTC 2 October (40 m)
 FISTS Fall Slow Speed Sprint, 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 1 October
 UBA ON Contest, SSB, 06:00 - 10:00 UTC 2 October
 RSGB International DX Contest, 07:00 - 19:00 UTC 2 October
 German Telegraphy Contest, 07:00 - 10:00 UTC 3 October
 ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 4 October

VHF Happenings

Microwave Experiments

If you are interested in conducting experiments on Microwaves in the SHF and EHF spectrum then you can do it at low cost. Gallium Arsenide Gunn diode oscillators cover 10 - 200 GHz, while the Gallium Nitride Gunn oscillators operate as high as 3 Terahertz. You could construct a Gunnplexer comprising a combination of a Gunn diode microwave oscillator, a microwave diode mixer, an audio amplifier with microphone and a wide-band FM receiver. With a small dish, you could make some distant FM contacts on 10 GHz (3 cm) from a high site via Line-of-Sight (LOS) or via Tropo propagation. If you would like to listen for EME signals on 10 GHz then try a DSTV dish with LNB and monitor the IF frequency.

144 MHz Fall Sprint
 19:00 – 23:00 local 19 September
 Mode: not specified
 Bands: 2 m Only
 Classes: Single Op; Rover
 Exchange: 4-character grid square
 QSO Points: 1 points per QSO
 Multipliers: Each grid square
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 3 October 2016
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
http://svhfs.org/2016_Fall_Sprint_Rules.pdf

ARRL EME Contest
 00:00 UTC 24 September to 23:59 UTC 25 September
 Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
 Bands: 2.3 GHz and Up
 Classes: (see rules)
 Exchange: Signal report
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 100 points per QSO
 Multipliers: Each US state, VE province and DXCC country once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 21 December 2016

E-mail logs to: EMEcontest@arrl.org
 Mail logs to: EME Contest, ARRL, 225 Main St.,
 Newington, CT 06111, USA
 Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>

AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
 14:00 - 17:00 UTC 24 September (144) and 17:00 - 18:00 UTC 24 September (432)
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 144 MHz, 432 MHz
 Classes: Single Op
 Max operating hours: 3 hours: 144 MHz; 2 hours: 432 MHz
 Max power: A: 5 W; B: 5 – 50 W; C: >50 W
 Exchange: RST, "/", serial no, "/", power class, "/" and 6-character grid locator
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 1 point per km per QSO
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 10 October 2016
 E-mail logs to: vhf-uhf@agcw.de
 Mail logs to: Manfred Busch, DK7ZH, Ebachstr. 13,
 D-35716 Dietzhoelztal-Mandeln, Germany
 Find rules at:
<http://www.agcw.org/index.php/en/contests-and-cw-activities/vhf-uhf-contest>

UBA ON 6 m Contest
 07:00 UTC-10:00 UTC 25 September
 Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 6 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: ON: RS(T), serial no and ON section; non-ON: RS(T) and serial no
QSO Points: 3 points per QSO with Belgian station
Multipliers: Each UBA Section
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 16 October 2016
E-mail logs to: ubaon@uba.be
Mail logs to: Leon Welters, ON5WL, Borgstraat 80, B-2580 Beerzel, Belgium
Find rules at: <http://www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules/on-contest>

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter